

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 3, 2002

Dear Representative Waxman:

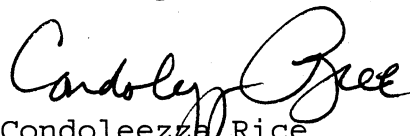
Thank you for your letter regarding the challenge posed by Palestinian terrorism. On behalf of the President, let me update you on the Administration's efforts in this area.

The President has continued to speak out clearly against the evil of terrorism directed at Israeli citizens. In his April 4 statement on the Middle East, the President described the threat that Palestinian terrorism poses both to Israeli security and the legitimate aspirations of the Palestinian people for their own state. The President reiterated his demand for Chairman Arafat to act decisively, in word and deed, against Palestinian terrorist groups and activities. He also called on other states in the region to meet their obligations under United Nations Security Council Resolution 1373 to stop incitement and take action against terrorist activities and financing.

The President has taken concrete steps to bolster our efforts against Palestinian terrorism. On March 27, Secretary of State Powell announced the designation of al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigade as a foreign terrorist organization. Designation makes it unlawful for persons in the United States or subject to U.S. jurisdiction to provide material support or resources to this group, requires U.S. financial institutions to block assets held by al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigade, and makes members (as well as supporters) of the group ineligible for visas.

Thank you again for sharing your concerns with the President on terrorism issues.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Condoleezza Rice", written in a cursive style.

Condoleezza Rice
Assistant to the President for
National Security Affairs

The Honorable Henry A. Waxman
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515